



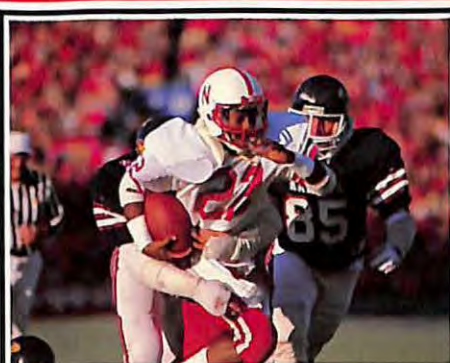
Syracuse 17, Nebraska 9



Nebraska 17, Okla State 3



Nebraska 33, Missouri 23



Nebraska 41, Kansas 7



Oklahoma 17, Nebraska 7



Husker Pride

Huskers Illustrated

Box 83222
Lincoln Nebraska 68501

Review

Nebraska 7 — Oklahoma 17

November 24, 1984

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Nebraska 7 — Oklahoma 17



Bill Weber makes the stop on OU's Steve Sewell. The Husker defense more than lived up to its billing as the nation's best.

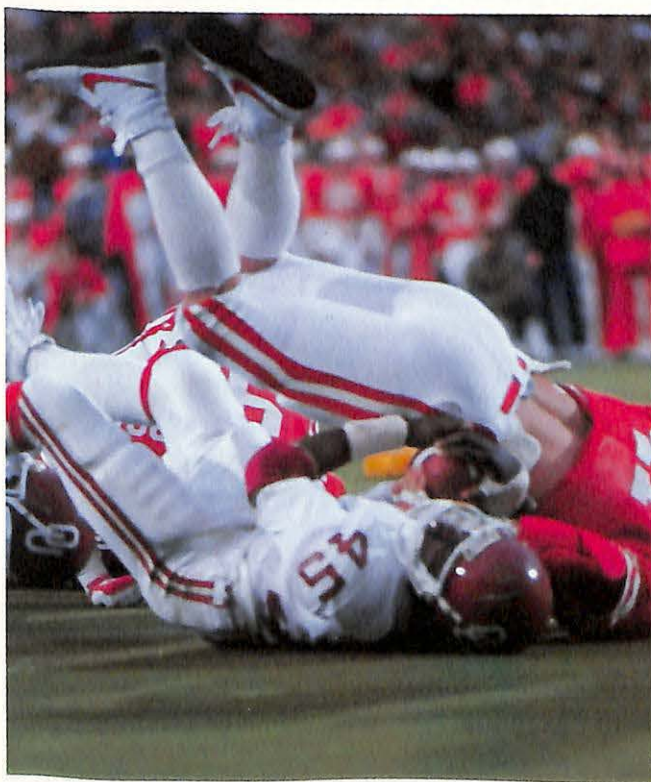
The Lincoln Tour & Travel Edition



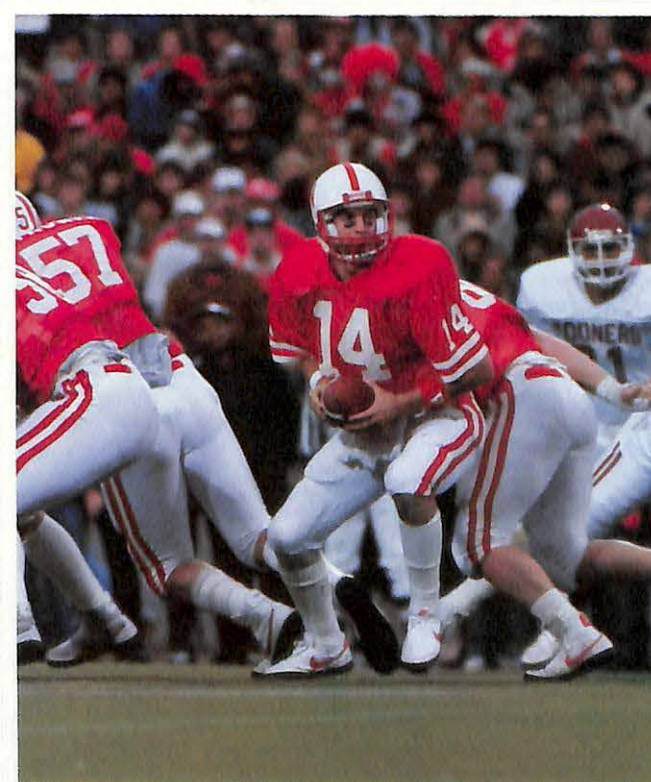
Craig Sundberg's passing fired NU's domination of the second quarter.



Travis Turner dives for extra yardage with a Sooner hanging on in front of the Husker bench.



Marc Munford smashes Lydell Carr to the ground, as the NU linebacker served notice he's a bona fide All-American candidate.



Travis Turner gets the Husker offense rolling behind the big NU line.

STATISTICS

Team Statistics

	TEAM	SEASON	OPP
	NU	OU	NU
First downs	19	9	245
First downs rushing	9	6	175
First downs passing	10	3	59
First downs penalty	0	0	6
Rushing attempts	53	51	695
Yards gained rushing	171	172	3677
Yards lost rushing	34	29	255
Net yards rushing	137	143	3422
Net yards passing	236	58	1281
Passes attempted	24	10	160
Passes completed	14	5	90
Passes had intercepted	1	2	11
Total plays	77	61	855
Net yards	373	201	4703
Ave. gain/play	4.9	6.0	5.5
Fumbles-lost	4-3	1-1	43-24
Penalties-yards	2-29	4-31	56-503
Intercept-yards	2-31	1-0	16-295
Punts-yards	5-213	9-362	51-2056
Ave. per punt	42.6	40.2	40.3
Punt ret.-yards	3-18	1-6	45-555
Kick ret.-yards	1-23	1-23	18-420
Possession time	29:59	30:01	353:12
Third down conversions	6-16	5-17	71-161
Fourth down conversions	0-1	1-1	9-17

Scoring Summary

OKLAHOMA 17, NEBRASKA 7

OKLAHOMA	7	0	0	10	— 17
NEBRASKA	7	0	0	0	— 7

OU-NU	Play	Time Left
FIRST QUARTER		
0- 7	Bradley 1 run (Lashar kick) Drive: 7 plays, 26 yards	2:40
SECOND QUARTER		
7- 7	Smith 1 run (Klein kick) Drive: 10 plays, 84 yards	4:21
THIRD QUARTER		
No Scoring		
FOURTH QUARTER		
7-10	Lashar 32 field goal Drive: 6 plays, 58 yards	14:49
7-17	Bradley 29 run (Lashar) Drive: 6 plays, 43 yards	:56

Individual Statistics

NEBRASKA

RUSHING — Turner 8 attempts for 14 yards, 13 yards lost, 1 yard net, 0 TD, 5-yard long gain; Smith 13 attempts for 29, 2, 27, 1, 10; Porter 6 attempts for 33, 0, 33, 0, 12; Swanson 2 attempts for 8, 0, 8, 0, 5; Sundberg 7 attempts for 15, 16, minus-1, 0, 6; DuBose 17 for 72, 3, 69, 0, 15.

PASSING — Turner 14 attempts, 7 completions, 1 interception, 65 yards, 0 TD, 13-yard long pass, 2 sacks for 7 yards lost; Sundberg, 10 attempts, 7 completions, 0, 171, 0, 42, 1 for 12.

RECEIVING — Schnitzler 4 receptions for 83 yards, 0 TD, 38-yard long pass; Frain 2 receptions, 14, 0, 9; Swanson 3 receptions, 31, 0, 14; DuBose 2 receptions, 52, 0, 42; Kimball 2 receptions, 48, 0, 30; Smith 1 reception, 8, 0, 8.

PUNTING — Livingston 5 punts for 213 yards, 42.6 ave., 61-yard long punt.

FIELD GOALS — Klein 2 attempted, 0 made; Livingston 1 attempted, 0 made.

PUNT RETURNS — Smith 3 returns for 18 yards, 0 TD, 9-yard long return.

KICKOFF RETURNS — DuBose 1 return for 23 yards, 0 TD, 23-yard long return.

INTERCEPTION RETURNS — Watkins 1 interception for 26 yards, 0 TD, 26-yard long return; Daum 1 for 5, 0, 5.

DEFENSE — Weber 5 unassisted tackles, 1 assist for 6, 3 tackles for losses of 5 yards, 2 pass sacks for losses of 8; Spachman 5-0 for 5, 1 for loss of 7; Smith 1-0 for 1; Noonan 1-3 for 4; Strasburger 4-4 for 8, 1 for loss of 3; Graeber 2-3 for 5; Shead 2-1 for 3; Daum 8-4 for 14; 1 sack for 10; Munford 11-5 for 16, 1 for loss of 4, 1 sack for 10; Daffer 0-1 for 1; Burke 4-0 for 4; Harris 2-0 for 2; McCashland 1-1 for 2; Clark 5-1 for 6; Watkins 1-0 for 1; Washington 1-0 for 1.

FUMBLE RECOVERY — Skow.

OKLAHOMA

RUSHING — Bradley 16 attempts for 71 yards, 25 yards lost, 46 net yards, 2 TD, 29-yard long gain; Tillman 13 for 51, 3, 48, 0, 28; Sewell 3 for 1, 0, 1, 0, 1; Carr 16 for 44, 0, 44, 0, 7; Ledbetter 2 for 5, 0, 5, 0, 3; Shepard 1 for 0, 1, minus-1, 0, minus-1.

PASSING — Bradley 9 attempts, 5 completions, 2 interceptions, 58 yards, 0 TD, 31-yard long pass, 3 sacks for losses of 21 yards; Collins 1-0-0, 0, 0, 0, 0; Shepard 1 sack for loss of 1.

RECEIVING — Jackson 2 receptions for 12 yards, 0 TD, 9-yard long gain; Tillman 1 for 3, 0, 3; Shepard 1 for 12, 0, 12; Rhymes 1 for 31, 0, 31.

PUNTING — Winchester 9 punts for 362 yards, 40.2 avg., 57-yard long punt.

FIELD GOALS — Lashar 1 attempted, 0 made.

PUNT RETURNS — Rhymes 1 return for 6 yards, 0 TD, 6-yard long return.

KICKOFF RETURNS — Rhymes 1 return for 23 yards, 0 TD, 23-yard long return.

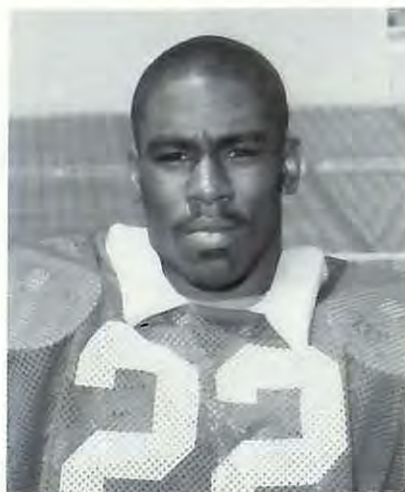
INTERCEPTION RETURNS — Rockford 1 interception for 0 yards.

DEFENSE — D. Reed 5 unassisted, 1 assist for 6; R. Reed 5-1 for 6, 1 for loss of 12, 1 pass sack for 12; Casillas 5-1 for 6; Flemmons 2-0 for 2, 1 for loss of 1; Johnson 2-0 for 2, 1 for loss of 6, 1 sack for 6; Migliazzo 9-1 for 10, 2 for losses of 3; Bosworth 12-0 for 12, 1 for loss of 2; Hall 7-1 for 8; Rockford 4-0 for 4; Brown 7-4 for 11; Dixon 1-0 for 1; Rayburn 2-4 for 6.

FUMBLES RECOVERED — Johnson, Migliazzo, Hake.

PASSES BROKEN UP — D. Reed.

A Look Back...



Doug DuBose

Offensive Headliner

On a second-and-11 from the 50-yard line, late in the fourth quarter of Nebraska's 17-7 loss to Oklahoma, Cornhusker quarterback Craig Sundberg connected with I-back Doug DuBose near the Sooner 40-yard line.

DuBose made a quick cut, to leave Oklahoma linebacker Brian Bosworth grasping at air, and sprinted goalward.

Sooner strong safety Sonny Brown finally caught up with DuBose at the eight-yard line.

Nebraska needed a big play, and DuBose provided it, just as he had provided two big plays during the Huskers' only touchdown drive of the game.

DuBose carried four times in the 10-play, 84-yard drive.

On a second-and-seven from the NU 40-yard line, he bolted nine yards for a first down, and on a second-and-14 from the Cornhusker 45-yard line, he twisted and turned for 15 yards and another key first down.

On a day when not much went right for the Cornhusker offense, DuBose met the biggest challenge of his brief college career. The sophomore from Uncasville, Conn., finished as the game's leading rusher, carrying 17 times for 69 yards.

As a result, he's the *Huskers Illustrated* Offensive Player of the Game.

DuBose went into Nebraska's regular-season final needing just 29 yards to top 1,000. He got

them with 40 yards to spare and, in so doing, became only the fourth sophomore in NU school history to rush for 1,000 or more yards.

The others were Bobby Reynolds, who rushed for 1,342 yards in 1950; Isaiah Hipp, who finished with 1,301 rushing yards in 1977; and Tony Davis, who gained 1,008 yards in 1973.

DuBose also became only the 10th Cornhusker ever to rush for 1,000 yards in a season.

Such personal records were lost in the disappointment of the loss to Oklahoma, however. DuBose echoed the sentiments of his teammates in the post-game interview sessions.

"It's a hard thing to face, but I have to live my life," said DuBose. "Life goes on, and we have one more game to play."

Robb Schnitzler, a sophomore from Battle Creek, Ne., also played well enough to be considered as the Huskers' outstanding offensive player.

Schnitzler alternated with senior Scott Kimball at split end as Jason Gamble's replacement. Gamble underwent arthroscopic knee surgery following the Kansas game and may miss spring drills.

Schnitzler caught four passes for 83 yards, including a 38-yard reception to the Sooner two-yard line, setting up Nebraska's only touchdown.

NU quarterback Craig Sundberg "threw it right where it had to be; I was pretty excited after that catch," Schnitzler said.



Marc Munford

Defensive Headliner

For the second week in a row, Nebraska sophomore linebacker Marc Munford is the *Huskers Illustrated* Defensive Player of the Game.

Munford won the statistical battle between the best two young linebackers in the Big Eight Conference in Nebraska's 17-7 loss.

Oklahoma's Brian Bosworth, a redshirt freshman, finished the game with 12 tackles, all of them unassisted.

Munford, a true sophomore, was credited with a game-high 16 tackles, including 11 unassisted. He also sacked Oklahoma quarterback Danny Bradley once for a four-yard loss.

"Our defense played well," Munford said. "We just gave 'em some big plays, and every time we had a turnover, they capitalized. We had a few chances to capitalize, and we didn't."

The Sooners didn't do anything unexpected. "They came out and ran basically what we'd practiced against all week long," said Munford.

Oklahoma managed only 201 yards of total offense against an aggressive Nebraska defense. Sooner quarterbacks were sacked four times.

"It's tough to lose, but I feel worse for the seniors. They're down. That's the thing that hurts the most," said Munford. "I get two more shots at these guys."

Munford was only one of several NU defenders deserving of recognition, despite the defeat. This week's outstanding defender award rightfully belongs to the entire Husker unit.

"We out-hit 'em. I know we did. We just didn't get the breaks. If we had gotten some breaks, we would've won by a touchdown or two," senior defensive end Bill Weber said.

"The defense as a whole played an excellent game. If we get a decent call down on the goal line, they don't get the field goal, as far as I'm concerned. But breaks are breaks."

Weber was referring to a near interception by senior cornerback Neil Harris, one play before Oklahoma kicked a field goal to go up 10-7, eight seconds into the fourth quarter.

If the official had allowed the interception, Harris might've been the player of the game.

"Easily, it was an interception. I don't see how the call could've been anything but that," a dejected Harris said afterward. "The series before, I banged my hip up. If I hadn't done that, maybe I could have gotten a little bit closer to making the interception on my feet. But an interception is an interception."

Senior linebacker Mark Daum was as active as Munford, finishing with 14 tackles and intercepting a pass.

Senior defensive end Scott Strasburger made eight tackles. Strasburger was convinced Harris made the interception that might've saved the day.

"If Neil had dropped the ball, he'd be the first to tell me. He caught the ball," said Strasburger.

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Scouting Around...

The Training Room

Mike McCashland's sprained wrist and Bill Weber's dislocated finger were the only noteworthy injuries suffered by Nebraska during the Oklahoma game.

The Cornhuskers will have plenty of time to heal before beginning preparations for a bowl game. NU Coach Tom Osborne said he will give the team "a couple of weeks off."

Freshman split end Jason Gamble underwent ar-

throscopic knee surgery following the Kansas game and will miss the bowl game and, possibly, next spring's practice.

Junior I-back Paul Miles also underwent surgery, after reinjuring a shoulder which had been dislocated in the Syracuse game.

Those were the only significant, long-term injuries during the season.

The Coaches' Evaluation



Shortly after top-ranked Nebraska lost to Oklahoma, 17-7, spoiling the Huskers' chance for a national championship in the Orange Bowl, Tom Osborne met the press.

And NU's 12th-year head coach admitted that "this is maybe about as disappointing a loss as we've had. We've had some over the years that have hurt, but this probably hurts as bad as any of them."

Sunday, Osborne felt no differently. The loss to the sixth-ranked Sooners still hurt.

It hurt so badly that Osborne admitted he had trouble getting to sleep Saturday night when he got home and took his telephone off the hook.

"The thing I laid awake more last night thinking about than anything else was the play I called," he said, referring to a fourth-and-goal situation from the OU three-inch line with about six minutes remaining.

Osborne said he couldn't decide in bed "whether we should have run a quarterback sneak, a straight-ahead isolation play or what."

"We looked at the film this morning and they (the Sooners) were in the defense I anticipated they would be in. They were really stacked in on the sneak."

"They had four guys shoulder-to-shoulder, plus their two linebackers right behind 'em. We might have been able to sneak it in, but it would have been about four people on three — their four against our three. So I chose to go off tackle."

Osborne called a 49 pitch, Nebraska's bread-and-butter play, and quarterback Craig Sundberg pitched the ball to I-back Jeff Smith.

Smith took the pitch and sprinted to his left. After reading his blocks, he has the option to continue outside or cut inside.

Smith stayed outside and it proved costly. OU cornerback Brian Hall was there on an outside blitz and stopped Smith short of the goal line.

Osborne said Sunday he decided to run 49 pitch because "it looked in the film like Mark Behning had been doing a good job on the pitch play against their defensive right tackle."

"We put a guy in motion (wingback Jim Thompson) because we knew their right corner would be firing. He blocked in, but it got strung out a little bit, they got some penetration and we didn't make it."

"I really don't have any real qualms about what we did," Osborne said. "We just didn't get it in."

"They were lined up like I thought they would be. It was a bad call because it didn't work. In football, what works is good and what doesn't work is bad. But given the information I had, I probably would have done the same thing over again. We sure looked at a lot of film and

we thought the pitch would be best against that alignment."

Film study showed that on the pitch play, "Behning did a pretty good job on the tackle," Osborne said. "The tight end did a reasonably good job on the defensive end. The wingback in motion neutralized the corner, the fullback got something on the linebacker and Harry Grimmer turned up on a safety man running across the field."

"The deal was we had three of four stalemate blocks there and it was a little confusing for Jeff Smith. At one point, it looked like he wanted to go underneath and then he decided to bounce outside. By the time he decided to bounce, it was a little too late."

"I still don't think Jeff has that burst of speed," Osborne said. "He's never been a real burner. But he's still a little handicapped with his ability by that ankle."

Osborne admitted that even though Smith is a little bigger and less prone to fumble, "the way the play broke, Doug DuBose might have had a better chance to outrun somebody around the corner."

Osborne never did second-guess himself about not kicking a field goal in that situation and forcing a 10-10 tie that would have sent Nebraska to the Orange Bowl against Washington.

"With three inches to go, if you don't make it, they still have the ball on the one-yard line," Osborne pointed out. "And if you do tie the game, they can get the ball on the 20, 25 or 30 and kick a field goal to beat you. With a four-point lead, they've got to make a touchdown to beat you."

Even after missing the touchdown, "if we'd gotten the ball back and stopped Oklahoma, we'd have been near midfield with 3 1/2 minutes to go."

That opportunity, however, vanished when Smith, the nation's No. 1 punt returner, fumbled OU's punt after a six-yard return.

If the Huskers had retained possession and "if it had come down to a fourth down and 10 at the 20-yard line or something like that, we'd probably kick a field goal then," Osborne said.

"If it was a long shot to score or even if we'd ended up fourth and two or three at the two or three-yard line, we might have kicked a field goal."

"But you've got just about as good a chance of making three or four inches as you do to kick a field goal. We'd been 0-for-3. That's no more than an extra point. But you don't make all of them."

Still, the thought of all those variables took a calm man and made him think more Saturday night live thoughts than he likes to think.

And how well did he sleep?

"Oh I went to sleep once at 11 o'clock and once again about 2 and once again about 5. It wasn't getting to sleep. It was waking up that was bothering me."

A look ahead...

Sure, Nebraska lost its No. 1 rating and another shot at the national championship with a disappointing 17-7 setback to sixth-ranked Oklahoma Saturday.

But the Huskers still finished the regular season with a 9-2 record, at least a share of the Big Eight championship and an almost cinch trip to the Sugar Bowl, if they don't back into the Orange Bowl.

Huskers Illustrated would like to give Tom Osborne, his staff and his players a healthy "thank you" and a hearty "congratulations" for another remarkable football season.

Nebraska remains the most consistent and solid college football program in the country and Sunday, even Tom Osborne had to be realistic and frank.

"I would have been very satisfied with a 9-2 record," he said. "If somebody had said we could take it last August, I'd have said: 'Yeh.'"

The Huskers lost \$11 million worth of talent to the pros from the most productive offense in college football history.

They had to replace three All-Americans — Mike Rozier, Irving Fryar and Dean Steinkuhler — and a three-team All-Big

Eight quarterback, Turner Gill, who was the match that lit the fuse.

Additionally, Nebraska had to revamp a defense, physically and psychologically, that finished 73rd in the nation in total defense last year.

To plug those holes and still be No. 1 in mid-November is nothing short of mind-boggling.

"It's real easy the day after a loss to be real negative and down in the dumps," Osborne admitted.

"But a lot of good things happened," he said. "I told our players after the game they had nothing to be ashamed of or hang their heads about."

"The only time you do that is if you don't give a great effort and we really gave a great effort against Oklahoma."

"Sometimes, when you lose a game, you feel like you just got whipped," Osborne said. "I felt a little bit that way after the Syracuse game."

Oklahoma was different. "We were probably the better offensive team and probably the better defensive team," he said. "But we weren't the superior kicking team and weren't superior in turnovers."

Despite not having the complete package, "I'm really proud of our effort," Osborne said. "We played hard and we played a great football team."

"I don't in any way feel differently about our team," he said.

"If anything, my admiration for them is greater. My feeling that we can play with any team and can beat any team in the country is probably stronger now than it was yesterday before the game."





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